

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 OES-03 PC-01 USIA-06 IO-10 INR-07

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----- 006490

R 051000Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9349

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: U.S. GRAIN STOCKS IN SAHEL

REF: STATE 064622

1. AS OF MARCH 31, TA 4604 SORGHUM REMAINING IN STOCK IN N'DJAMENA LIMITED TO APPROXIMATELY 45 MT UNBAGGED COMMODITY DERIVED FROM BROKEN BAGS. THIS STOCK IS IN GOOD SHAPE IN MODERN CEMENT FLOOR WAREHOUSE. NO SIGNS INFESTATION. EXPECT SUFFICIENT SACK AVAILABILITY WITHIN TWO WEEKS IN ORDER TERMINATE REBAGGING AND DISTRIBUTION OPERATION.

2. SINCE 15 FEBRUARY, 713 MT U.S. SORGHUM IN GOOD CONDITION MOVED OUT OF NDJAMENA FOR FAYA LARGEAU. OF THIS TOTAL, 550 MT WERE MOVED DURING PAST THREE WEEKS AND ARRIVALS WOULD NOT YET BE COMPLETED. EXCEPT FOR NEGLIGIBLE AMOUNT OF 19 MT SHIPPED TO ABECHÉ LAST WEEK OF FEBRUARY AND 4 MT SHIPPED SOUTH-WEST REGION DURING FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY, ONLY OTHER MOVEMENT OF U.S. SORGHUM SINCE MID-DECEMBER 1974 HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTION OF 1065 MT ON OPEN MARKET IN N'DJAMENA ACCORDING TO PROVISIONS OF TA. THEORETICALLY, DISTRIBUTION OF GRAIN TO

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PROVINCES PRIOR MID-DECEMBER HAS BEEN CONSUMED AND

IS NO LONGER IN STOCK AT STAGING POINTS.
CONCLUSION IS THAT WITH EXCEPTION OF STOCKS RESULTING
FROM RECENT DELIVERIES TO FAYA LARGEAU AND NOMINAL
GRAIN REMAINING N'DJAMENA, U.S. SORGHUM PROGRAM
CAN BE CONSIDERED COMPLETED. ON-SITE INSPECTION
AT LARGEAU AND CONFIRMATION OF STOCKS DEPLETION
AT OTHER SITES NOT IMMEDIATELY POSSIBLE.

3. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT TRAVEL TO ALL
REGIONS IN NORTHERN AND EASTERN REACHES OF CHAD
IS RESTRICTED FOR SECURITY REASONS AND SPECIAL
PERMISSION REQUIRED ENTER THESE AREAS. EVEN WHEN
PERMITTED, TRAVEL TO THESE POINTS IS DIFFICULT
AND EXTREMELY TIME-CONSUMING. FOR PRACTICAL
PURPOSES, CDO STAFF VISIT WOULD BE LIMITED TO
SWING THROUGH AREA BY CHARTER AIRCRAFT. CDO
ATTEMPTING ARRANGE SUCH TRIP WITH WFP REP UPON
AVAILABILITY APPROPRIATE AIRCRAFT, HOPEFULLY
WITHIN ONE MONTH'S TIME IN ORDER CHECK ON POSSIBLE
REMAINING U.S. SORGHUM STOCKS AS WELL ASSESS
GENERAL HUMAN-NEED CONDITIONS IN OUTLYING AREAS.

4. IT SHOULD ALSO BE POINTED OUT THAT POST
CONSIDERS VERY UNLIKELY POSSIBILITY OF GOC REQUEST
FOR RENEWED BILATERAL U.S. FOOD ASSISTANCE PRIOR
COMING RAINY SEASON. GIVEN NATURE CANCELLATION
OF TA 4604 PROGRAM LAST OCTOBER, IT WOULD BE
DIFFICULT, IF NOT FACE-SAVINGLY IMPOSSIBLE, FOR
PRESIDENT TOMBALBAYE TO EAT CROW SO SOON EVEN
IF UNFAVORABLE FOOD SITUATION URGED HIM TO DO SO.
FROM OUR STANDPOINT, WE WOULD BE WARY OF ANY
PROPOSAL THAT WOULD GIVE WAY TO A PROGRAM AND
SITUATION WHEREIN OUR ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS
WOULD PRESS GOC BEYOND THEIR TOLERANCE POINT
WITH RESPECT TO THEIR CONCEPT OF OUTSIDE
MEDDLING IN CHAD INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THEREBY
EXACERBATE OUR PRESENT GOOD RELATIONS AND
JEOPARDIZE PROGRESS OF FARTHER-REACHING ELEMENTS
OF OUR COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS IN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT. IN ANY CASE, FOR PRACTICAL
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PURPOSES IT ALREADY TOO CLOSE TO RAINY SEASON
REALISTICALLY CONSIDER LIKELIHOOD NEW FOOD IMPORTATION
PROGRAM THAT WOULD REACH PEOPLE IN OUTLYING AREAS
PRIOR NEXT HARVEST. THEREFORE, MONITORING OF
SMALL AMOUNT SORGHUM REMAINING FROM TA 4604 PROGRAM
QUOTE TO PERMIT AID DEPLOY FOOD RESOURCES TO
MAXIMUM ADVANTAGE IN SAHEL OVER NEXT SEVERAL
MONTHS UNQUOTE, AS STATED FIRST SENTENCE REFTTEL,

NOT APPLICABLE IN CASE OF CHAD.

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